

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 - 6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended): A storage system with redundant components

comprising:

a plurality of disk devices;

a first controller having a first current port connected to a first host and a first standby port connected to a second host, said first controller connected to said disk devices for data exchange between said first host and said disk devices via said first current port;

a second controller having a second current port connected to said second host and a second standby port connected to said first host, said second controller connected to said disk devices for data exchange between said second host and said disk devices via said second current port of said second controller, said second controller having stored therein port configuration information representative of said first current port; and

a plurality of communication lines between said first controller and said second controller,

said first controller configured to detect an error condition therein and in response to detecting said error condition, to communicate an error indication to said second controller,

said second controller configured to detect receipt of said error indication and in response to receiving said error indication to configure said second standby port for data exchange between said first host and said disk devices based on said port configuration information about said first current port that is stored in said second controller.

8. (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 7 further wherein

said first controller and said second controller each have a plurality of current ports and a plurality of standby ports so as to connect a plurality of hosts.

1                   9.       (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 7 wherein said error  
2 indication is communicated via said communication lines.

1                   10.      (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 7 wherein said first  
2 current port and said second standby port connect to said first host and said second host via a  
3 fibre channel.

1                   11.      (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 7, wherein said first  
2 controller is further configured to communicate a recovery indication to said second controller  
3 upon recovery from said error condition, wherein said second controller is further configured to  
4 perform a disconnect operation of said second standby port and to communicate an indication of  
5 completion of said disconnect operation to said first controller.

1                   12.      (Previously presented): The storage system of claim 11, wherein a  
2 connection between said first host and said first controller is one of a point-to-point connection  
3 and a fabric unit, wherein a connection between said second host and said second controller is  
4 one of a point-to-point connection and a fabric unit.

1                   13.      (New): A storage system with redundant components comprising:  
2 a plurality of disk devices;  
3 a first controller having a first current port for communication with a first host and  
4 a first standby port for communication with a second host, said first controller connected to said  
5 disk devices for reading and writing data with said first host via said first current port;  
6 a second controller having a second current port for communication with said  
7 second host and a second standby port connected to said first host, said second controller  
8 connected to said disk devices for reading and writing data with said second host via said second  
9 current port; and  
10 said first controller operable to store first port configuration information in said  
11 second controller, said first port configuration information representative of said first current  
12 port,

13                   said first controller operable to detect an error condition therein and in response to  
14 detecting said error condition, to communicate an error indication to said second controller,  
15                   said second controller operable to detect receipt of said error indication and in  
16 response to receiving said error indication to configure said second standby port for reading and  
17 writing data between said first host and said disk devices based on said first port configuration  
18 information.

1                   14.   (New): The storage system of claim 13 wherein said second controller is  
2 operable to store second port configuration information in said first controller, said second port  
3 configuration information representative of said second current port in said

1                   15.   (New): The storage system of claim 13 wherein said first controller and  
2 said second controller each have a plurality of current ports and a plurality of standby ports so as  
3 to connect a plurality of hosts.

1                   16.   (New): The storage system of claim 13 further comprising a  
2 communication path between said first controller and said second controller, wherein said error  
3 indication is communicated via said communication path.

1                   17.   (New): The storage system of claim 13 wherein said first current port and  
2 said second standby port connect to said first host and said second host via a fibre channel.

1                   18.   (New): The storage system of claim 13, wherein said first controller is  
2 further configured to communicate a recovery indication to said second controller upon recovery  
3 from said error condition, wherein said second controller is further configured to perform a  
4 disconnect operation of said second standby port and to communicate an indication of  
5 completion of said disconnect operation to said first controller.

1                   19.   (New): The storage system of claim 18, wherein a connection between  
2 said first host and said first controller is one of a point-to-point connection and a fabric unit,

- 3 wherein a connection between said second host and said second controller is one of a point-to-
- 4 point connection and a fabric unit.